United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Green River District, Price Field Office 125 South 600 West Price, UT 84501 http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/price.html

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

IN REPLY REFER TO: 3482(UTG023) UTU-74804

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED #7010-1060-0001-1119-3740

Mr. Wesley K. Sorensen General Manager – Skyline Mine Canyon Fuel Company, LLC HCR 35, Box 380 Helper, Utah 84526

Re: Equipment Abandonment - Skyline Mine

Dear Mr. Sorensen:

On August 3, 2012, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a request from Canyon Fuel Company, LLC (CFC), operator of the Skyline Mine, for approval to abandon equipment in the 1 Left Tailgate intake and bleeder entries due to a squeeze zone involving floor heave and roof failure making the travelway nearly impassable. The abandoned equipment consists of a power center, a sump tank, a dust pod and a pickup truck on federal coal lease UTU- 67939.

Background:

- A Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) inspection was performed by the BLM on June 12, 2012, prior to starting the seal construction on the 1 Left 6 Left longwall gob block. The BLM inspector found no hazardous materials in or around the 23 seal locations.
- On August 3, 2012, the BLM received a request from CFC, operator of the Skyline Mine, for approval to abandon equipment in the 1 Left Tailgate Intake and Bleeder entries due to a squeeze area involving floor heave and roof failure making the travelway nearly impassable. This equipment will be abandoned inby the seals currently under construction.
- On August 6, 2012, the BLM forwarded CFC's request to the Manti-La Sal National Forest and Division of Oil, Gas and Mining for their review. The agencies have noted the situation and have no objections.

<u>Purpose:</u> Recovery of the abandoned equipment will subject mine personnel to unnecessary hazards associated with floor heave and poor roof conditions that have left a nearly impassable travelway.

<u>Approval:</u> Due to actions taken by the mine to drain and remove all fluids and batteries from the abandoned equipment, the BLM has determined that allowing the abandoned equipment to be left underground is in compliance with the lease terms and conditions and CERCLA requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact Vaughn Hughes at (435) 636-3626.

Sincerely,

For Patricia A. Clabaugh

Field Manager

Enclosure

Squeeze and Equipment Location Map

cc: Roger Bankert

BLM State Office (UT-923)

Green River District Office William Stringer

Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Manti-La Sal Forest Service Supervisor's Office 599 West Price River Drive Price, UT 84501

